

March 21, 2012

Ex Parte Notice

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Universal Contribution Methodology, WC Docket No. 06-122; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket No. 03-109; Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, WT Docket No. 10-208; Lifeline and Link-Up Reform and Modernization, WT Docket No. 11-42; Advancing Broadband Availability Through Digital Literacy Training, WC Docket No. 12-23

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, March 19, 2012, Shirley Bloomfield and the undersigned on behalf of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (“NTCA”), together with Richard Coit of the South Dakota Telecommunications Association, Becky Dooley of RT Communications, Michael Kinney of Dubois Telephone Exchange, Denny Law of Golden West Telecommunications, Tom Phelps of ENMR, and Sandy Vandevender of Five Area Telephone Cooperative, met with Commissioner Robert McDowell and Christine Kurth, his Policy Director and Wireline Counsel. During that meeting, certain participants expressed support for prompt and favorable action by the Commission with respect to: (1) the petitions for reconsideration filed by the Wyoming Telecommunications Association and the Wyoming Public Service Commission on December 29, 2011 with respect to certification of reasonably comparable local service rates; and (2) the petition for waiver and clarification filed by NTCA, the United States Telecom Association, the Independent Telephone and Telecommunications Association, the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of the Small Telecommunications Companies, the Western Telecommunications Alliance, and the Eastern Rural Telecommunications Association on March 9, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 351-2016 or mromano@ntca.org.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael R. Romano
Michael R. Romano
Senior Vice President - Policy

cc: Commissioner Robert McDowell
Christine Kurth